



# Susitna Rotary 2007

## OUR YEAR IN ROTARY 2007

**January 8th** found our club finally ready to **Charter**. A grand time was had by all at our "Gala" Celebration. We had many distinguished Rotarians attend and even had Paul Harris Fellow Recognitions for Robert Hall, Nola Kurber and Jack Timm.



We also had our **Relay for Life** Kickoff on **January 23, 2007**. Our club spent the Spring gathering items for a silent auction and the proceeds went toward our Scholarship program.

**MARCH...** **March 24th** was **Luau night**. We had a buck auction fund raiser, good food and lots of fun. The event was well attended by the folks from the area, our members and other Rotarians and increased our

scholarship fund.



Clyde and Vivian came dressed for the occasion.

**APRIL... was a busy month...** April 7<sup>th</sup> was the Willow Golf Tournament and Susitna Rotary fielded a Team. Jack, Kathy and Mitch along with Gail Just from Willow had a great time hitting the balls around in the snow. The weather was beautiful and we didn't do too badly.



**April 12** Found some of our members at the Houston High School, volunteering to help the Palmer Police Dept. with their **“Drunk Driving Awareness Program”**.



**April 29<sup>th</sup>** was the **Willow Health Fair**. We had fun helping out. Nola gave information about colon cancer, Jack and Mitch were at the “Meth” Station and Kathy and Gladys took weight and height measurements. Sandra and Tony Delucia were also involved in the Fair.



**MAY...RELAY FOR LIFE**, May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> was our big fund raiser for the year and was a great success. We enjoyed working with the American Cancer Society of

Mat Su volunteers and had a great silent auction. We raised almost \$6k for our scholarship fund and had fun doing it.



**May 17<sup>th</sup>** was the **District Conference** in Juneau. “To Russia with Love” was the theme, James Bond even came to the President’s dinner Sat. night. It was a time to learn about Rotary ways and to meet other Rotarians from our District.



Here we are at dinner with Rotarians from several clubs.

**May 26<sup>th</sup>** was **Lake Clean Up** Day. We had several members who met for breakfast then went to 5 different lakes in our area to do clean up. We also added vests to the Kids Don't Float stations at the lakes.



We even pulled a car out of Bear Paw Lake!

**July** We said goodbye to our Charter President, Scott



Norman  
adventure.

We wish him well in his new

**AUGUST ..** Found our club entered into another **golf tournament**. This one was a Rotary Fundraiser sponsored by several of the local Rotary Clubs. The tournament was held at the Palmer Golf Course, and our team, lead by captain John Shue ended up about in the middle of the pack. It was a great time.



**Founders Day** was **August 18**. This was a huge event, with lots of club participation and was enjoyed by the citizens of Houston. The fireworks were awesome and the Float Classic was great fun!





**SEPTEMBER ..** Found club members helping with the **Big Lake Chili Cookoff**. We set up and cleaned up and the best part was our own Nola Kurber won first prize for her awesome chile! Kathy Timm won second place...



**September 29<sup>th</sup>** was the Houston Chamber of Commerce and our club was well represented as award recipients:

**Robert Hall/** Gorilla Fireworks was voted Business of the Year  
**Rosemary Burnett /** Woman of the Year

**Roger Purcell/** Man of the Year

**Susitna Rotary/** Service Organization of the Year

**Kathy and Jack Timm/** Community Leadership Award

**Carla Hendrix/** Communication Award



**OCTOBER..** THE CLUB GOT INVOLVED IN AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT. CATHERINE INMAN CAME TO TALK TO US ABOUT FRIENDS OF DOLPA AND THE CLUB

DECIDED TO THAT THAT PROJECT ON THIS YEAR.

**November** was Foundation Month and our club had it's first Foundation Dinner. Foundation Chair, Keith Kurber did a fine job of organizing the event. As a result, we sent \$3,365.00 to the Rotary Foundaton, have 19 sustaining members and 8 Paul Harris Fellows! That's Awesome! We had a drawing and John Warner, Kay Zwaicker, Tom Dowell, Bill Kelly and Ralph Buzard were the winners. Tom became a Paul Harris Fellow that night as did Roger Purcell.



DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> WE HAD OUR RELAY FOR LIFE KICKOFF AT MAT SU REGIONAL AND HAD A GREAT REPRESENTATION FROM ALL OF THE VALLEY CLUBS. 5 OF THOSE IN THE PHOTO WERE FROM OUR CLUB...CHERIE, GLADYS, MITCH, KATHY AND JACK.



**DECEMBER** ..WAS A BUSY MONTH TOO.

RALPH AND CLAUDIA BUZARD, WITH THE HELP OF ROBERT HALL AND ROGER PURCELL PROVIDED WARM COATS FOR KIDS IN 4 OF OUR LOCAL GRADE SCHOOLS!

DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> WAS OUR CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET PROJECT WITH THE VALLEY OPEN BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH IN BIG LAKE . WE HAD A FANTASIC TURNOUT AND GREAT GOODIES AT THE KURBERS AFTERWARDS.



DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> WAS THE CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE HOUSTON LODGE/ THE CLUB HELPED OUT A LITTLE WITH GIFTS FROM SANTA AND THE PARTY WAS GIVEN BY ROSEMARY BURNETT,



ONE OF OUR MEMBERS.

[We had some great programs over the last year..just to mention a few...](#)

We visited the Big Lake Library in Jan.

Larry Tallman from Wasilla Noon club gave a scholarship presentation.

Dan Kennedy from the Noon Club came in March  
DOT presented in April on the new Hwy expansion.

Vince Curry and Dawn Brunette/ Willow Health Fair  
Mayor Menard was a presenter in May.

Randy Perlman from Big Lake Chamber in June

Mark and Cheryl Combs from Wasilla Noon/July to promote the Golf tournament.

Holly Geitlin was our presenter in July to share her GSI experience.

Dist. Gov. Maynard Gross was here in August.

Ray Ritari from AK. St. Fairgrounds was her in Aug.

Bob Pearson from the Anch. Hillside club came to propose an international project ( which we did collaborate on)

Ruth Josten from the Anch. Police Dept. gave us a presentation on forensics.

Amy Dorsey came from Bigs Brothers and Sisters.

Ray Depriest from the new Tech. School presented in Sept.

Our Own Col. Kurber gave us a presentation on his experience in Iraq.

Clyde and Vivian gave a presentation on their Russian trip.

Patsy Coyne from BAART gave a snow awareness presentation.

Mrs. Vervilo and Bouchard from Houston High School gave a presentation on the history and focus of the High School.

Sgt. Troy Shuey from AK St. Troopers gave us a presentation on crime in our area..he is from the new trooper post in

Meadow Lakes.

Our own Cherie Leblanc-Shue gave a presentation on Membership.

Andrea Thistle from the Valley Open Bible Fellowship church gave us a presentation on the food program at Big Lake.

Carolyn Jones was our presenter after our Foundation Dinner. Carolyn is a Foundation trustee.

Seth Kelly gave a program on the Boys and Girls Club..

Annie from the Alzheimer's Assn was a presenter in Dec.

I know I am forgetting some and for that I apologize. There were some great programs this last year and we are looking forward to the same in 2008. Here are a few photos



**Penny**

**Bianca**

**Claudia**



**Colleen**

**Mark**

**2008 BROUGHT US SOME AWESOME NEW MEMBERS. HERE ARE A FEW PHOTOS OF INDUCTION CEREMONIES AND A LIST OF OUR NEWEST MEMBERS....**